

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

-- **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

In a data demodulating method, predetermined input data is demodulated based upon a response characteristic of the partial response class 4; the demodulated input data is discrete-filtered to thereby produce filtering data; and the filtering data is maximum likelihood-decoded to thereby ~~producing~~ produce asymmetrical response data. Further, a magnetic recording/reproducing apparatus is arranged by using this data demodulating method. --